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# CRACE CHURCH VISITOR

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE GRACE REFORMED CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL,

VOLUME 1.

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NUMBER 6.

#### THE MISSIONARY SPIRIT.

PAPER READ BY MISS MOLLIE BUCKWAL-TER AT THE LADIES' MISSIONARY MEETING, COLON, MICH.



self as the Creator and preserver of man, and as such, after the fall, he in His infinite love and mercy, held out to man the promise of salvation. Through faith in a promised Redeemer, established His church

that His holy will might be made known to mankind, by His ministers and ser-

And thus from God's own conduct toward sinning humanity is primarily derived the spirit which permeates and moves the true missionary to-day.

By the missionary we understand, one sent to spread religion, and this spirit should actuate every one who professes christianity. Every child of God should feel himself commissioned to impart to others what has been so great a blessing to himself.

All trne Christians are missionaries, and the world their mission field. While the field of Christian mission is divided into Home and Foreign, this is only a convenient division, and has no place in Christian activity. It is an error to regard as missionaries, only these men and women, who sever home ties to labor in the distant lands, for the conversion of the heathen. All men are lost in sin, and all stand equally in need of salvation. All may be workers for Christ, be it in the home, the Sabbath-school room, or among acquaintances.

Every Sabbath-school scholar may be a little missionary. For often the simple, unaffected faith of a little child, has led to the Saviour those older in years. Just as the faith in her Savionr prompted a little girl to save her pen, nies and send a Bible to the heathen, but died just before it could be sent. She asked that it might be sent after her death. Her wish was complied with, and the circumstances connected with its sending written in the Bible

and that little Bible was the means of converting one, who became a power for Christ in that distant land.

In this land of religion are to be found many to whom Christ is only a name, and those earnest, consecrated workers, who bring these to a saving knowledge of Christ and go about brightening the lives of the sorrowing ones, snrely these are missionaries, showing the true spirit.

The Missionary Spirit is unselfish, having charity for all whom God in His great love sent His Son to redecm. Christ came not to bring the righteous but the sinner to repentance. He came to seek and save that which was lost.

The true missionary must himself have an understanding of the will of God concerning man. This spirit makes his life one of sacrifice and often of suffering, yet this is the spirit we should all cultivate. While many feel they can do so little, yet the widow's mite was honored, and there are many institutions that have for their end the promotion of the cause of our Lord that we may aid.

And since we meet together to-day, to organize a Women's Missionary Society let us reflect that while woman's work is confined largely to the home, yet we owe it to our God and to humanity, that we who have been so highly favored make some return of the Lord's goodness to us.

While we as individuals may do much, yet in an organization where all are alike working for the same great end, surely a greater work can be done.

And let our motto be charity toward all. While we cannot go to distant lands ourselves, we can and should aid those who are sent, and in this way indicate that we are possessed of the right spirit and that we would hasten the day when all the nations of the earth shall confess the name of God and bow to Him in thanksgiving and the work of the missisnary shall have been completed.

The pastor, Mrs. Zartman and daughter Josie, Elder F. D. Panlus, and lady, and Miss Mollie Buckwalter were in attendance upon the classical meetings. A fair representation from Grace Church.

# ANNUAL MEETING OF ST. JOSEPH CLASSIS.

This meeting was held at the St. Panl's Chnrch, near Colon, Mich, beginning May 15. There was a full representation of pastors and elders in attendance. The meeting was a very pleasant and profitable one. The business was dispatched with haste. Among the items of special interest which came before the classis, was the examination and licensure of two candidates for the ministry, A. H. Zechiel and H. M. Meherter. Both candidates passed their examinations and were licensed. H. M. Meherter was also at once ordained. A. H. Zechiel dismissed to Tiffin classis. The treasurer's report indicated that the pastoral charges throughout the bounds of classis had contributed more for benevolence, than in former years. number of congregations paid their full apportionment. Among them was Grace Church, also the Salem's Reformed Church. But the pastoral charge to be commended above all others for its liberality is the Neriah charge, located north of Toledo. This charge though only a handful of people paid their full assessments. The Lord bless this people. The pastors throughont the classis are doing earnest work, and our chnrches are growing in strength and in influence. One new pastoral charge was constituted during the past year, known as the Marmont charge, with Rev. S. Shaw, as pastor, A portion of this charge was formerly a part of the Plymonth charge. Pylmonth was constituted a mission, and will be supported by the Ladies Society of classes. The ladies are undertaking a grand work, and we are confident they will sncceed.

The apportionment made for benevolence for the coming year, is fixed at fifty cents per member. A small amount, but there will be some who will think this is an extravagant amount to pay for this purpose. How poor some people's souls are. How contracted and frozen their hearts. Grace Church will pay her full apportionment. The Lord will give ns liberal hearts. The next annual meeting of classis will be held at Goshen, Ind., some time in the month of April, 1890.

# GRACE CHURCH VISITOR.

25 Cents per Year.

REV. A. K. ZARTMAN, A. M., - - EDITOR.

Board of Managers: Rev. A. K. Zartman, El-DER F. D. Paulus, Deacon H. P. Vorder-Mark. Entered at the postoffice at Fort Wayne, Indiana, as second-class matter, Feb. 7, 1889.

#### SIXIH ANNIVERSARY.

Grace Church will celebrate its Sixth anniversary on Pentecost, June 9th. The church has great reason to observe this day with appropriate services. Let it be a day of praise and thanksgiving. Within the six years of its existence Grace Church has been greatly blessed The organization was effected with fifty charter members. The membership now numbers nearly two hundred. The congregation started out without any church house, now it owns one of the best church locations in the city, a church and parsonage lot, and worships in its own cozy and pleasant church parlors. All this speaks in eloquent terms of the zeal and consecration of the membership, and the blessing of the great head of the church upon the work of this people. There is much to be thankful for. Let the membership and pastor see to it, that the coming aniversary day shall be observed with a spirit of gratitude and praise. Let pastor and people with one accord continue in prayer and supplication for a Pentecostal out-pouring of the Holy Spirit upon the church on this day.

At the Sabbath morning service the pastor will be installed, Rev. N. H. Loose, of Plymouth, Ind., will preach the sermon. The other members of the installation committee, it is expected, will also be present, consisting of Rev. J. R. Skinner and Rev. L. B. Clayton. At the morning service an opportunity will also be given for the reception of applicants for church membership, and the baptism of children. The pastor hopes there may be those who are ready to make their church home with the hospitable people of Grace Church. At the Sabbath evening service brief adresses will be made by the visiting clergymen, pastor, and members of the church. On Saturday evening there will be a reception at the church parlors from 8 o'clock until 9, of ministers from abroad, members and friends of the church. The pastor hopes to see the members of the church one and all at these services, on Sabbath, and also on Saturday evening. Let our church parlors be crowded at all these services. Members of the church come, and invite your friends to come with you. Let

us make this day a day of refreshing, and of thanksgiving.

## CLASSICAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The meeting of the ladies, from the various charges belonging to St. Josephs Classis, at Colon, Mich., on the 16th of May, was one of interest and profit to all who were permitted to attend. The object of this meeting was the organization of a Woman's Missionary Society, as had been stated through the columns of the *Christian World*. The representation from the different charges was as large as could reasonably have been expected, and the services were all of great interest and benefit.

The organization, though not entirely consumated, promises to become one of activity and usefulness in helping to carry forward the great work of missions.

Owing to a reconstruction of the Plymouth charge, and the inability of the "Board of Missions" to give Plymouth the necessary financial help needed for the support of a pastor, the Woman's Missionary Society has been assigned the care of the Plymouth Mission by the classis, and has expressed its willingness to undertake the work. The amount needed by the Plymouth Mission is three hundred dollars, of which two hundred has already been pledged.

The raising of this amount need not be a laborious task, if the societies already organized, and the congregations not organized will lend a helping hand, and do their share of the work.

Let the women of St. Joseph classis be inspired with that degree of ambition and zeal to work, so that we may be able to raise the necessary amount for Plymouth over and above our classical apportionments. With this in view the president of the "Woman's Missionary Society of St. Josephs classis" kindly requests each society or congregation within the bounds of this classis to hold a missionary service, or give an ice cream social on the 20th of June to raise funds for Plymouth mission, the proceeds to be sent to Miss S. M. Zehner, Plymouth, Ind. Treasurer.

May our thoughts on this day be of one another, our prayers for each other, and for the advancement of Christ's kingdom in our own midst, and in distant lands.

MRS. ZARTMAN, Pres.

A copy of this paper will be mailed to each minister in St. Joseph classis.

Elder William Garmin, from the Salem Reformed Church, attended the meetings of St. Joseph classis.

SALEMS REFORMED CHURCH, DUTCH RIDGE.

May 5th, the pastor held a communion service with this congregation. The preparatory service was held Sabbath afternoon at 3 o'clock. The communion service in the evening at 7:30. The attendance was large at both these services, but especially so at the evening service. The people could not be seated with any comfort, nor near all gain admittance to the house. The service Sabbath evening was characterized with a spirit of deep solemnity and interest. The number of communicants was large. One of the most interesting features of the evening service was the collection for benevolence. At the afternoon service the pastor supplied the congregation with envelopes for the evening collection. About \$18.00 was yet to be raised to pay the classical apportionment of this church for the year. The pastor discovered very soon, that the people were in earnest about raising the amount. Every one from the aged fathers and mothers, to the little children, were ready to lay their hearts to this work. To the surprise and joy of the pastor and every one, when the envelopes were taken up in the evening, their contents, and the amount thrown into the baskets loose, aggregated the sum of \$26.90. Every one seemed elated over the results of this effort. The congregation and friends of the church have reasons to feel rejoiced. The effort indicates what can be done when the people have willing hearts and minds. Many of the envelopes contained \$1, others 50 cents, others 25 cents. Many of the contributors were not members of the church. Let these people remember the scriptural promise. "God loveth a cheerful giver". "The liberal soul shall be made fat." The whole amount of this collection was at once paid over to the treasurer of the classis, and the Salem's Church has a credit of \$8.10 on its classical apportionment for the coming year. May the Lord bless these people who have responded so cheerfully to his call.

The Womans M. & A. Society of Grace Church will hold its regular monthly meeting on Thursday evening, June 6. A full attendance is desired as matters of interest and importance will be considered by the society. Let every member be present.

Rev. W. H. Xander, of Bluffton, Ind., and Rev. J. M. Kesler, of Mulbery, Ind., were guests with the pastor's family May 18th.

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Sabbath evening		- 7:30
Sunday School,	-	9:30
Teachers' meeting Sabbath evening .		- 6:30
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#### BREVERTIES.

Sixth aniversary of Grace Church.

June 9th.

The Normal class meets every Tuesday evening.

The pastors installation Sabbath morning May 9th.

Rev. C. F Kriete, of the Salems Church in the city, confirms a class of thirteen catecheumens on Sabbath, June 2nd.

Rev. J. R. Skinner, filled the pulpit at Grace Church, Sabbath evening, May 5th.—He preached a very acceptable sermon.

New scholars are coming into the Sunday school every Sabbath. Who will bring in the largest number by July 1st?

Rev. Skinner secured fourteen new subcribers for the *Christian World*, while among our people. How many more families will subscribe?

Willis Souder, student at Heidelberg College, will soon be home on his vacation. He has made excellent progress in his studies during the past year.

Rev. N. H. Loose, of Plymouth, writes: Mrs. Loose will accompany me to Fort Wayne June 8, to attend the anniversary and installation services.

Mr. and Mrs. Bolander from Michigan visited their friends in the city, over Sabbath, May 26. We were glad to meet them, and see them at our services.

The Huntington Evening Herald of May 27, has abstracts of a memorial sermon preached by Rev. C. M. Schaaf. The sermon was a very eloquent and earnest effort.

The Akron Daily Beacon of May 27 contains a memorial sermon preached by Rev. R. C. Zartman Sabbath morning, May 26. The sermon is full of excellent thoughts.

The pastor's father writes from Glenford, Ohio, that there will be a large crop of oxheart and black-eagle cherries on the old homestead, and thinks they

will be in need of help during the cherry season. This is a very tempting message. The people of Grace Church should not be surprised if ere long they should learn of a missing Fort Wayne preacher.

The "Profundo Basso," at the children's concert was rendered by Messrs Townsend and Blair and Misses Nettie Pepinbrink and Katie Vordermark. It was well executed.

With but a few exceptions the members of Grace Church have now adopted the system of weekly payments. Let every one fall into line. This plan gives general satisfaction. A large number are paying fifty cents a week, others twenty-five. The consistory thinks of sending a quarterly statement to every member of the church of the amount paid during the quarter. This would avoid many errors, and would be a great satisfaction to every one.

## CONCERT AND EGG BREAKING.

Friday evening, May 10th was a happy occasion for the little children of Grace Church. The rain came down in torrents, but in spite of storm and rain, the children, accompanied by parents and friends, found their way to the church, while many were detained on account of the rain, there was yet a large audience present to hear the children, and enjoy the evening. There was first, the rendering of a programme of sprightly little speeches, and of singing by the little folks, assisted in some of their exercises by the older members of the church, and friends of the church. The exercises throughout were a rare treat. The performers did themselves full credit, and it was surprising to see what "Little Tots" can do. The following is an outline of the programme rendered, and as announced by Master Oscar Miller:

Recitation...Inez Covert and Minnie Horn Chorus—Medley............"Little Tots"
Duet......Julia Wilson and Mrs. Zartman
Recitation—"Only a Baby".... Edith Covert
Quartet—Profundo Basso...........Big Folks
Recitation Anna Souder,

RecitationAlice ConetChorusBoys and GirlsRecitationMrs. Studer

The programme of exercises was under the direction of Mrs, Zartman.

Immediately after these exercises came a second interesting feature of the evening's doings. The egg-breaking and ice cream supper. The promise was made to the children that a detailed account would be given in the June issue of the Visitor of their eggs and their contents. We mean to be as good as our word. And here are the names of the children who had eggs, and the amount in each egg:

Agnes Smith, \$13.80; Josie Zartman, \$4.30; Inez Covert, 16 cents; Myrtle Long, \$1.00; Freddie Vordermark, \$2.01, Tillie Buckwalter, \$1.08; Johnie Vordermark, \$2.02; Alice Conet, \$1.92; Stella Soliday, \$1.20; Annie Souder, \$1.80; Carrie Souder, \$2.89; Lillian Mathis, \$1.74; Oscar Miller, \$1.23; Gloie Miller, \$1.11; Carrie Koontz \$1.17; Vanetia Lonergan, 84 cents; Lottie Grimes, 76 cents; Mamie Vordermark, \$1.13; Mollie Winninghoff, 84 cents; Myrtle Hanes, 73 cents; Emma Ketler, \$1.00; Jessie Bradley, \$1.05; Anna Schaeffer, 98 cents; Daisy Walters, 33 cents; Blanch Covert, \$1.11; Lulu Weller, 26 cents; Lillie Kirkham, 25 cents; Edith Covert, 76 cents; Ettie Souder, \$1.20; Nettie Richard, 87 cents; Frank Griffith, 38 cents; Willie Walters, 23 cents; Lizzie Winninghoff, 20 cents; Georgia Smith, \$1.30; Perry Monn, 41 cents; Charley Bradley, \$1.00; Earl Long, 55 cents; Waneta Hyman, \$1.00; Baron Long, 67 cents; Conie Horn, 29 cents; Minnie Horn, 29 cents; Edna Frarie, 20 cents: Willie Rudisil, 45 cents; Nellie Rudisil, 71 cents; Jakie Rudisil, 85 cents; Maudie Beighler, 21 cents. Total amount in eggs, \$58.95.

Agnes Smith, having secured the largest amount, \$13.80, was awarded the first prize, a hand Bible; Josie Zartman, second prize, also a Bible, contents of egg, \$4.30.

The children all did nobly in every respect. The contents of eggs was secured in soliciting pennies and selling tickets.

Door receipts at concert \$4.00; net receipts of ice cream supper, \$10.00. Total receipts, \$72.96; expenses, \$5.35; net receipts, \$67.60. This is the result of the first effort of the Mission Band. Mrs. Zartman has been asked to repeat the concert, and will do so in the near future.

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